

Message Text

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DEPARTMENT FOR CU AND EUR/WE (CMKINLEY)

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SUBJ: VISIT OF YOUNG CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARLIAMENTARIANS,
SEPTEMBER 11-25 -- FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE

1. TWO FIRST TERM CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC (DC) PARLIAMENTARIANS, ON. MARIO SEGNI AND ON. MARIO USELLINI, HAVE CONTACTED EMBASSY REGARDING VISIT THEY PLAN TO THE UNITED STATES DURING PERIOD SEPTEMBER 11-25 AND HAVE ASKED OUR ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE FOR THEM DURING THEIR VISIT. THEY PLAN TO ARRIVE IN WASHINGTON ON SEPTEMBER 11 REMAINING THERE THROUGH THE AFTERNOON OF SEPTEMBER 15 WHEN THEY WILL DEPART FOR BOSTON. REMAINING IN BOSTON UNTIL SEPTEMBER 21, THE PAIR WOULD THEN TRAVEL TO NEW YORK WHERE THEY WOULD REMAIN UNTIL THEIR RETURN TO ITALY ON SEPTEMBER 25. THEY WILL PAY THEIR OWN EXPENSES AND WILL MAKE THEIR OWN TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS.

2. SEGNI AND USELLINI ARE FIRST TERM MEMBERS OF THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES WHO REPRESENT A NEW BREED OF CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC POLITICIANS. NEITHER WAS ACTIVE IN POLITICS PRIOR TO THE 1976 NATIONAL ELECTIONS, AND BOTH PRESENTED THEIR CANDIDACIES WITH THE HOPE THAT ONCE ELECTED THEY COULD WORK FOR A REJUVENATION OF THE DC. (BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION FOLLOWS AT THE END OF THIS MESSAGE.) THEY HAVE TWO MAIN PURPOSES IN TRAVELLING TO THE UNITED STATES:

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A. TO STUDY ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN POLITICAL SYSTEM AT THE NATIONAL AND STATE LEVEL, AND B. TO MEET POLICY MAKERS AND OPINION MOULDERS INTERESTED IN ITALY WITH THE AIM OF EXPLAINING TO THEM THE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE NEW GENERATION OF DC PARLIAMENTARIANS.

3. BOTH SEGNI AND USELLINI HAVE EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN HAVING

A FULL AND SERIOUS SCHEDULE DURING THEIR STAY. WITH THIS MIND, WE HAVE THE FOLLOWING PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS FOR THEIR US VISIT:

A) WASHINGTON--CALLS IN THE DEPARTMENT ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY VEST, DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY BARBOUR AND POLICY PLANNING CHIEF LAKE. AT THE NSC CALLS ON DEPUTY NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR DAVID AARON AND STAFFER ROBERT HUNTER WHOM PAIR RECENTLY MET HERE IN ROME. APPOINTMENTS SHOULD BE ARRANGED WITH MEMBERS

OF THE CONGRESS, INCLUDING MEMBERS OF THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE AND THE HOUSE INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE AS WELL AS WITH LEADERS OF THE ITALO-AMERICAN CONGRESSIONAL GROUP. OTHER MEETINGS MIGHT WELL BE ARRANGED WITH RICHARD SCAMMON (ELECTION TECHNIQUES), 1619 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, N.W., WASHINGTON, WITH MICHAEL LEDEEN OF THE GEROGETOWN INSTITUTE FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES AND WITH SOME MEMBERS OF THE EDITORIAL BOARD OF THE WASHINGTON POST.

B) BOSTON--THOMAS TRIMARCO, FORMERLY STATIONED AT THIS EMBASSY, HAS OFFERED TO ORGANIZE BOSTON PROGRAM FOR SEGNI AND USELLINI, HE CAN BE CONTACTED AT CSAPLAR AND BOK, 1 WINTHROP SQUARE, BOSTO, MASS. 02110, TEL: 617-357-4400. PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS INCLUDE: CALL ON GOVERNOR OF MASSACHUSETTS AND/OR OTHER STATE OFFICIALS; MEETINGS WITH ITALIAN STUDIES EXPERTS AT HARVARD AND MIT, AND APPROPRIATE MEDIA EXPOSURE. SINCE SEGNI IS A PROFESSOR OF LAW, HE WOULD APPRECIATE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH AN APPROPRIATE MEMBER OF THE HARVARD LAW SCHOOL

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FACULTY.

C) NEW YORK--DURING THIS PORTION OF THE VISIT, SEGNI AND USELLINI MIGHT USEFULLY VISIT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY'S WESTERN EUROPEAN INSTITUTE, MEET WITH BANKERS AND BUSINESSMEN (POSSIBLY ARRANGED THROUGH A BANK SUCH AS THE FIRST NATIONAL CITY OFR CHASE MANHATTAN), MEET WITH A GROUP OF THE COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS, SPEND A DAY FOLLOWING A CANDIDATE FOR THE OFFICE OF GOVERNOR OF NEW JERSEY, AND MEET WITH SOME MEMBERS OF THE EDITORIAL BOARD OF THE NEW YORK TIMES.

4. BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION IS AS FOLLOWS:

A. MARIO SEGNI--BORN IN SASSARI IN 1939, SEGNI IS THE SON OF ANTONIO SEGNI, FORMER PRIME MINISTER AND THEN PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC FROM 1962 UNTIL 1964. A PROFESSOR OF LAW, SEGNI WAS NOT ACTIVE IN THE DC UNTIL HE RAN FOR ELECTION TO THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES IN 1976. HE IS A MEMBER OF THE JUSTICE COMMITTEE. SEGNI IS PLEASANT, PERSONABLE, AND DESPITE HIS LACK OF EXPERIENCE IN POLITICS IS MAKING A NAME FOR HIMSELF. IN ADDITION TO ITALIAN, SEGNI SPEAKS FRENCH AND SPANISH.

B. MARIO USELLINI--BORN IN MILAN IN 1938, USELLINI WON

ELECTION TO PARLIAMENT IN 1976 AS AN INDEPENDENT ON THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY TICKET BY RUNNING AN AMERICAN-STYLE MEDIA CAMPAIGN WHICH DIRECTLY SOLICITED VOTES ON AN ANTI-COMMUNIST REFORM PLATFORM. A COSMETICS MANUFACTURER AND DISTRIBUTOR, USELLINI REPRESENTS SOMETHING NEW IN DC POLITICS---THE POLITICALLY CONCERNED BUSINESSMAN. HIS MANNER IS QUIET AND RESERVED, AND HE IS DEDICATED TO DC RENEWAL BY MAKING THE PARTY MORE RESPONSIVE TO VOTER INTERESTS AND MORE EFFICIENT IN ITS PARLIAMENTARY WORK. USELLINI SPEAKS FRENCH AND SOME ENGLISH.

5. DURING THEIR TRIP TO THE UNITED STATES, SEGNI WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY HIS WIFE, AND USELLINI WILL BE BRINGING ALONG HIS POLITICAL ASSISTANT, FLORIO TERRENZI. MRS. SEGNI SPEAKS SOME ENGLISH AND GENERALLY DOES NOT PLAN TO PARTICIPATE IN THE UNCLASSIFIED

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FORMAL PROGRAMMING. TERRENZI IS LIKELY TO ACCOMPANY SEGNI AND USELLINI ON CALLS.

6. ACTION REQUESTED. WOULD APPRECIATE FOLLOWING DEPARTMENT ASSISTANCE TO ENSURE THAT VISIT PRODUCES MAXIMUM RESULTS:

A. PROVIDE INTERPRETER-ESCORT--USELLINI KNOWS DEPARTMENT CONTRACTOR MARIO CORRADI AND WOULD BE DELIGHTED IF IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO ENGAGE HIM FOR THIS DUTY.

B. ARRANGE PROGRAM ALONG LINES INDICATED.

C. RECEIVE IN DEPARTMENT.

D. CONFIRM THAT SEPTEMBER 11-25 ACCEPTABLE PERIOD FOR VISIT. GARDNER

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